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My dear Maria Rome Sept. 15 1821

Mr Catterwood arrived here last night in perfect health and safety after a most favourable journey — I found him sitting in my Study with the same look and manner that I met him in London — for the moment I was transported to London — for he is the first friend I have met here, whom I knew there — his face and voice carried me to my dear Home — and I was overjoyed to find you all happy and well and as I left you — From your intimation I had long expected him — but I have the great pleasure of meeting him before I could calculate — it is a great pleasure and will be also a mutual improvement — We have seen Mr. I. seen St. Peters — and the Vatican — with which he is quite delighted — or I should say astonished — I have introduced him to many Brother Artists here — English men — there are three or four here at present — whom he will be upon terms of study with — It was very fortunate that you sent those notices for I have since taken a set of Rooms of a Russian Artist for him to go in — at a most reasonable rate — and with every possible convenience for us two — There are 2 studys 2 sitting rooms 2 bed rooms and a kitchen in our Rooms — with the furniture &c — we are to pay no more than £1. 12 per month — for the whole — We consider this a most lucky hit — and it comes from your giving us notice — therefore we both most humbly thank you for saving us some 3£ per month or more — for Lodgings will be enormously dear and are now from the number of English — Mr Catterwood found me in good health and spirits and with a host of many delightful Studies and interesting speculations — In the many friends — The air in Rome is not healthy this season — or that I have remained here at the present time the weather and air is most delicious — Mr C found Mr in the Shops at work — he seems most gratified with what we see of Rome and living in it — I think he has done

most wisely in coming whilst he is so young - he will lay a foundation
here that may direct nobly all thro'out life - This letter
should have been in the Post just when Mr Catherwood arrived
which was impossible - so you must wait until the next Post
- but I will give you an account of tomorrow and each day
until it goes - 16th Sept - Lady Westmorland has done me the
honor to select me from all the Artists to have - to accompany her my
to Egypt - (I remember to have written to you about it) now I have
turned this over and over in my mind - and have still thought it best to
remain here - but Her Ladyship is not satisfied with my refusal - and I
have been obliged to search my mind for some other reason - I have
now said plainly that this journey as it is in pursuit of Architecture
more than figures - will be a way from my purpose - but my real
reason was - that as I am here surrounded by all that I can want -
with most cheering prospects before me - in a course of study
what I had always been desiring for - why it would have been
wrong to leave it. - Amongst other things I had mentioned Mr
Catherwood coming twice - Her Ladyship inquired very particular of him
- and whether he would not go with me - I said perhaps he would
like to go alone - She said very much to approve of the account I gave
of him - of his abilities and of his family - and said she would take
any one of my recommending - because I understood her views. - Last
night I had to make another visit to her - and thought it
best to make a Duttle with Mr C - The proposition was made to him
by Lady Westmorland - he was much pleased with the idea - I have per-
suaded him not to go - for several reasons - that it will be infinitely better to
remain in Rome and study Architecture - which he has prepared for
- & that after had he time after this a most favorable opportunity and perhaps
shortly one of going to Egypt - and therefore that it should not be suffered
to escape - and as Lady W will have so many servants - and such
good preparations for the journey - he will go without danger -

Monday 11th I have just received your letter of the 25th August—
It pains me very much that poor Haydon should have so much trouble
about my picture — jogging about from one place to another in your large
City of London is dreadful — My kind Maria too — I can guess what anxiety
you must have had about it — it gives me great pleasure that Hunt and
Jean & Mr Bond should have shown me such service — I may get
my pension — but have not set my heart upon it — Lady Westmoreland's
Letter will do me great service — it was more to the purpose than I
could have written myself — She wrote all my history here — poor Keats —
and all the account of Long Alcibiades — of the damage done to it — and
many other things such as affecting mind would dictate — Whilst
so many good and amiable hearts acting for me — from Her Ladyship down to
my dear Maria's — and my anxious and good Father with Mr Bond — given
that satisfaction I owe all to know — That all is done that can be done
I will leave the rest to God — my picture is with you long before this —
perhaps all decided — I told Father not to fret or think me unfor-
tunate — I am now on a different station with or without it — Lady Westmore-
land patronised me and will see me righted — She says that she will even
paint more Miniatures than I can want — I feel glad you did not sell
my three pictures — Wednesday 13th — We have been wandering from one place
to another to behold this mighty House — On my return home I find
Lady W— has been to my Study 4 times — and had sent her servants to the Place
where we dine — she soon returned again dressed in deep mourning for the Queen
— It was to take me that her journey was postponed until another season —
She again & more servants — Her Ladyship again requested me with
my friend Mr Cathcart to undertake this journey next season — I said
Yes with pleasure — I may then have finished some works to establish
my reputation — We are going to dine with Her next Saturday — She
has written to the Duke of Devonshire of my pictures and thinks
He comes here next winter and she may do much for me — She is a Lady of
Accomplishment — such abilities & such Character — That I think it great
honor to have her good opinion — and this from her knowing my real state here

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Mr Cotterwood ~~pray~~ beg you to show my letter at Chambers Square — and pray them to excuse him visiting this Post — his head is so full of Venice and Rome and he is so tired — that he humbly hopes to be permitted to go to bed. He desires me to present his love and remembrance to all that is dear to him — his Home — he says he can never stay here more than a year without seeing them — Likewise make my respects and thanks — in permitting him to join me here in Rome — it will be my pleasure to serve him in every way possible — The pleasure you give in the account of Tom and Charles is very great — the success of my Brothers and Sisters I have more at heart than my own — in this persuasion business — the best spirits it will give my dear Father & Mother — is more to me than the

[illegible] Rome

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